



Press Release
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Meera Joshi
Commissioner/Chair

TLC PLEASED TO WELCOME BILL AGUADO TO ITS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) is pleased to announce its newest member, Mr. Bill Aguado. Commissioner Aguado was nominated with the advice and consent of Mayor Bill de Blasio, and confirmed by the New York City Council to hold the Bronx seat of the Commission in May 2015, for a term that would expire on January 31, 2022.

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“We are pleased and privileged to have Bill Aguado join us in our work at the TLC’s Board of Commissioners,” said TLC Commissioner and Chair Meera Joshi. “The incredible breadth and diversity of Commissioner Aguado’s accomplishments and experience as a leading community activist and advocate will be a tremendous asset as we move forward with our ambitious regulatory agenda, and I look forward to working closely with him.”

“I am honored to have been selected by the Bronx Council delegation, and thankful for the support of Mayor de Blasio,” said Commissioner Aguado. “I am excited at the prospect of bringing my experience to bear in the TLC’s varied and dynamic work with its regulated industries, and I am hungry to learn as much as I can about these incredibly complex businesses that have served so many New Yorkers and visitors for so long and so well.”

A fixture in Bronx community and cultural activism and advocacy since 1972, Bill Aguado retired in 2011 as Executive Director of the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA), though he is still called upon to lend his expertise on behalf of emerging artists, community cultural groups and community-based organizations. Through Mr. Aguado’s guidance, the BCA saw the elevation of local arts as a respected and valued asset in the Bronx. Over the length of his tenure at the BCA from 1978 through June 2011, funding for Bronx arts organizations and artists increased dramatically, demonstrating the importance of community arts and artists representing people of color.

Among Mr. Aguado’s many accomplishments were the creation of BRIO, an artist fellowship program, in 1988; the creation of the Bronx Writers’ Corp in 1994, which places poets and writers in programs serving at-risk children; and the founding of the Bronx Tourism Council in 1991. In 1996, Commissioner Aguado helped found the BCA Development Corporation, which was created to develop arts-related workforce and entrepreneurial initiatives.

In honor of his mother, and in reflection of his strong belief in the importance of supporting and recognizing the sacrifices and contributions of single parents as role models in our communities, Mr. Aguado established the Josephine Aguado Scholarship Fund at Hostos Community College.

As a cultural activist and arts consultant, he consulted with The Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation (WHEDCO) to shape the vision and development of the Bronx Music Heritage Center (BMHC), celebrating the musical heritage of the Bronx. He also organized the "Conversing Bricks" permanent sculptural installation, created by Hatuey Ramos-Fermin and situated at Hostos Community College. In September 2013, Aguado curated an exhibit at the Longwood by the artist and cancer survivor Esther Pagan: *My Colors of Cancer* a multi-media installation of photographs, handcrafted hats, sculpture and poetry.

A founding member of the New York City Latino Commission on AIDS, Mr. Aguado was also appointed by Governor Mario Cuomo to serve as a Trustee of SUNY at Purchase. In 1972, he started the first alternative school in the Bronx in partnership with NYC School District 10 and Fordham University.

About the NYC TLC:

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) was created in 1971, and is the agency responsible for the regulation and licensing of over 200,000 yellow medallion taxicabs and for-hire vehicles, their drivers, and the businesses that operate and support their industries. It is recognized as the largest and most active taxi and for-hire transportation regulatory body in the United States.

To find out more about the TLC, or to review its rules and procedures, we encourage you to visit our official Web site at www.nyc.gov/taxi or contact 311/311 Online.